

Political Survey
of
the D. P. R. K.

1945 - 1960

D951.9
K84755
v.1-4

Pyongyang, 1960

KOREA INFORMATION SERIES NO.1

Political Survey
of
the D.P.R.K.
1945-1960

**Foreign Languages Publishing House
Pyongyang, 1960**

CONTENTS

ANTI-IMPERIALIST, ANTI-FEUDAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION IN THE NORTH. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM	6
1. Liberation of Korea by the Soviet Army	6
2. The Founding of People's Power and the Struggle of the Korean People for its Consolidation	8
3. Enforcement of Democratic Reforms. Establishment of People's Democratic System	13
KOREAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY	19
1. U.S. Policy of National Division	19
2. Struggle of Korean People against the South Korean Separate "Elections" and the Founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	21
FATHERLAND LIBERATION WAR FOR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE	26
THE STRUGGLE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY AND SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION IN THE NORTH IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD	32
1. The Struggle of the Korean People for Socialist Construction in the North	32
2. The Struggle for the Peaceful Unification in the Post-War Period	43

Political Survey of the D.P.R.K.

1945—1960

The Korean people will soon mark the 15th anniversary of liberation, their glorious national holiday, on August 15, 1960.

For the Korean people who have thousands of years of long history, fifteen years is a short span of time. But the past 15 years witnessed tremendous changes in political, economic and cultural life of the Korean people.

A colonial, semi-feudal society only 15 years back, our country has now firmly established an advanced socialist system under which every one is entitled to live and work in a happy and free atmosphere.

Our country, a backward and poor country in the past, has now turned into an industrial-agricultural state with the firm self-supporting national economy.

The political zeal of the people who have become masters of the power is high, and their political and ideological unity based on the worker-peasant alliance is strong. Such tremendous changes registered in the life of our people are, first and foremost, attributable to the correct policy and wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, and to the revolutionary enthusiasm and creative labour of

the people who selflessly fought to implement the Party policy.

ANTI-IMPERIALIST, ANTI-FEUDAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION IN THE NORTH. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

1. Liberation of Korea by the Soviet Army

The Korean people led a miserable life over the past 36 years under Japanese colonial rule, subjected to every description of national contempt, maltreatment, barbarous oppression and exploitation.

The Japanese imperialists, who completely occupied Korea in 1910, pursued the most heinous policy of turning Korea into their monopolist colony and military base directed against the Asian Continent. They covered Korea with the network of gendarmeries and prisons and trampled upon the freedom and elementary human-rights of the people by intensifying their barbarous oppression under various evil laws. As Lenin pointed out, the Japanese imperialist ruling machine in Korea was the "combination of modern technique with the unheard-of barbarous oppression and Asiatic torture."

The Japanese plunderers, having established domination in the political, economic and cultural fields, cruelly exploited the fruits of the labour of the Korean people, and drove the people into an indescribably miserable situation.

The workers under Japanese rule were forced to work 12-16 hours a day. They were paid less than half of the average wages of low-paid Japanese workers.

The life of peasants, too, was miserable. Owing to the arbitrary seizure of the land by the Japanese imperialists,

most of the peasants were deprived of their plots. Already in 1919, 50.4 per cent of the total arable land was concentrated in the hands of Japanese and Korean landlords who constituted 3.3 per cent of the entire peasant households. The peasants were robbed by the landlords of their harvest, 90 per cent at the maximum, and, in addition to this, they had to pay scores of onerous taxes and levies. As a result, great numbers of peasants left their home villages in search of a living, many of them emigrated to alien countries.

The Japanese colonialists were the cruel plunderers and executioners of the Korean people. However, the Korean people never reconciled themselves to the fate of colonial slaves. They rose up and developed protracted national liberation struggles against the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists. They dealt fatal blows to the enemy by staging the nation-wide uprisings on March 1, 1919, under the influence of the great October Socialist Revolution, which were participated in by more than 2,000,000 people.

Marxism-Leninism began to spread rapidly in our country and the workers emerged as a leading class in the national liberation movement. Since then various movements were vigorously pushed forward by the workers, peasants, youths, students and women.

The anti-Japanese national liberation movement of the Korean people developed into a new high by Comrade Kim Il Sung and other communists in the '30s. In defiance of all hardships and difficulties, the anti-Japanese partisans led by Comrade Kim Il Sung waged a sanguinary armed struggle against the Japanese invaders for 15 years and delivered fatal blows at the enemy, militarily and politically. It was in the course of this anti-Japanese armed struggle that organizational and ideological preparations for founding a Marxist-Leninist Party in Korea were carried out and the glorious revolutionary tradition of the Workers' Party of Korea established.

The lofty aspiration of the Korean people for the freedom and independence of the country came through on August 15, 1945, thanks to the defeat of Japanese imperialism by the great Soviet Army. The August 15 Liberation

served as a radical turning-point for the Korean people. The Soviet Army not only liberated our country with their blood, but also, from the outset, rendered the Korean people every assistance to establish a democratic, unified and independent country on their own. And the revolutionary enthusiasm of the Korean people broke out in eruption.

The workers became masters of factories and enterprises formerly owned by the Japanese, pro-Japanese and national traitors, and began to operate them; abolished the old slavish system of labour by enforcing an eight-hour working day. The peasants expelled the vicious landlords and reduced farm-rent. Students, driving out of the school the notorious teachers, secured academic freedom.

The Japanese ruling apparatuses were liquidated and people's committees, the local power organs, composed of representatives of all strata of the working people, came into being throughout the country on the initiative of the people.

After the liberation the democratic patriotic forces, which were united under the leadership of the working class, entered upon the road of building a democratic independent country.

On September 8, 1945, nearly one month after the liberation, the U.S. troops landed in Inchon and occupied the area south of the 38th parallel. From the first day of their landing in South Korea, the U.S. imperialist army who did nothing for the liberation of Korea ran wild in realizing their aggressive ambition in Korea in gross violation of the international conventions and agreement that they signed themselves.

The U.S. occupation of South Korea split our country and nation into two parts, making the North and South traverse the different roads.

2. The Founding of People's Power and the Struggle of the Korean People for its Consolidation

The U.S. occupation of South Korea and their colonial, subjugation policy created difficult and involved conditions

for founding a democratic, unified independent country. The important task confronting the people was to complete the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal, democratic revolution in North Korea, taking advantage of the favourable conditions created by the stationing of the Soviet Army, and to establish the revolutionary democratic base, a sure guarantee for achieving the unification and independence of the country on the democratic basis.

For the successful implementation of these tasks it was imperative to found a Marxist-Leninist Party, the headquarters of the revolution.

Prior to the liberation, the Korean working class could not have its revolutionary Party owing to the disruptive activities of factionist elements and the cruel suppression by the Japanese imperialists. Though Party organizations were formed after the liberation, some of them still lacked organization.

Under such circumstances, Comrade Kim Il Sung proposed to organize the central leading organization of the Party so as to immediately unite the scattered local Party organizations into a sole Party unit based on democratic centralism and to ensure a unified guidance. Thus the North Korean Organizing Committee of the Communist Party of Korea, a new Marxist-Leninist Party, was organized in October 1945 on the organizational and ideological basis laid in the course of the anti-Japanese armed struggle. The founding of this Organizing Committee was of decisive importance in consolidating under the guidance of the working class the unity and solidarity of the patriotic democratic forces and mobilizing the broader sections of people for the struggle for building a democratic independent country.

Under the correct guidance of the North Korean Organizing Committee of the Communist Party of Korea, people's committees at all levels wiped out the reactionary subversive elements who had wormed their way into the people's committees, and consolidated further their positions. Also under the guidance of the Party, trade union organizations were formed in each factory and enterprise, followed by the formation of peasants' unions, women's unions and

youth organizations in all parts of the country. Millions of the working people flowed into these organizations.

All of this meant that the worker-peasant alliance was further consolidated under the guidance of the working class, and basic conditions were created for forming a united front.

At this juncture, i.e., in December 1945, when the unity of the working class and the revolutionary forces were being rapidly consolidated under the guidance of the Party, the decision of the Moscow Three Foreign Ministers Conference on setting up a provisional Korean democratic government was made public.

The decision of the Moscow conference on the Korean question stipulated that a provisional Korean democratic government should be established, first and foremost, for developing Korea as a prosperous, democratic independent country, and that the Joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. Commission which was to be convened should consult with the Korean democratic parties and social organizations in order to correctly reflect the will of the people in founding the democratic provisional government.

The decision also stipulated that, after the formation of a provisional government, trusteeship for a period of up to five years should be established for helping and assisting, with the participation of the provisional government and the democratic parties and social organizations, the political, economic and social progress and democratic development of the Korean people as well as the building of the Korean independent country.

The Moscow decision on the Korean question which was in accord with the aspiration of the Korean people, was the international guarantee for the democratic development of Korea under the political circumstances created at that time. This was why the entire Korean people supported the decision earnestly. In only one day of January 6, 1946, more than 3,000,000 people took part in rallies and demonstrations held throughout North Korea in support of the decision, and throughout South Korea, mass rallies and demonstrations were held.

But from the start, the U.S. imperialists, who did not want to see the independence and democratic development of Korea, distorted the content of the decision and hampered its realization with an eye to turning Korea into their colony.

The U.S. imperialists in South Korea, while instigating the reactionary elements to stage an "anti-trusteeship movement," spread false reports, describing that the trusteeship provided for in the Moscow decision meant a "mandatory rule," or alleging that it was the Soviet Union that insisted on the establishment of trusteeship in Korea for a term of ten years. Their aim was to fan the anti-Soviet sentiments among the people.

For some time, the U.S. imperialists, taking advantage of the anti-trusteeship movement, were busy mustering the reactionary forces isolated from the people.

Thus, in connection with the Moscow decision on the Korean question, antagonism between democracy and reaction in Korea became more acute.

To build, under these circumstances, a democratic, sovereign and independent country, it was imperative to establish a revolutionary democratic base first in North Korea by means of realizing the Moscow decision.

In North Korea the people set themselves the task of organizing a unified people's power organ as a first step for establishing the democratic base.

The people's committees established immediately after liberation in all parts of the country played a great role in ensuring social security and stabilizing the people's living while smashing open resistance of the reactionaries and at the same time enhancing their organizational and business capacity.

The 10 administrative bureaus organized in November 1945 to administer the 5 provinces in North Korea carried out their duties of guiding each branch of the national economy and of establishing economic ties between provinces.

However, it was impossible without a united central power organ to give general guidance to the local people's committees.

On February 8, 1946 an enlarged joint conference of the representatives of North Korean political parties, the Communist Party included, social organizations, administrative bureaus and provincial, city and county people's committees was held to set up a united people's power organ in North Korea. At the conference the North Korean Provisional People's Committee was formed.

The formation of the North Korean Provisional People's Committee was of great historic significance in the development of the Korean revolution.

This meant the solution of the question of power, the fundamental problem of revolution. It was the first victory the Korean people won in the course of the struggle for building a revolutionary democratic base.

The North Korean Provisional People's Committee was organized on the basis of a united democratic national front which, relying on the alliance of the workers and peasants led by the working class, rallied the broad anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic forces of the country. It performed the function of a people's democratic dictatorship. It was for the interests of the people.

The people's power is an embodiment of a long-cherished desire of the people, and our patriots fought for it over a long period.

The revolutionary character of the people's power and its fundamental tasks were clearly manifested in the 20-Point Programme proclaimed in March 1946: thorough liquidation of the remnants of the Japanese imperialist rule; guaranteeing of democratic freedom and rights; nationalization of major industries; enforcement of land reform; ensurance of economic activities of the medium and petty private traders and industrialists; enforcement of democratic labour law and universal compulsory education; development of the national culture and art; and so on.

Guided by the programme, the North Korean Provisional People's Committee set about to carry out anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution in North Korea.

3. Enforcement of Democratic Reforms. Establishment of People's Democratic System

The land reform constituted a most important democratic revolution in our country. Before liberation our country was a backward agrarian country under the imperialist and feudalist exploiting system. The landlords accounted for 6.8 per cent of the total peasant households but owned 58.8 per cent of the total arable land, while the peasants accounting for 70 per cent of the total peasant households owned small or no land.

Unless we put an end to the feudal relations of land-ownership, the working peasants could not be saved from their miserable situation and rapid development of agricultural productive forces could not be ensured.

Therefore, the democratic land reform presented itself as a primary task after liberation.

The toiling peasants who suffered long feudalist oppression and exploitation came out demanding confiscation of the land owned by landlords without compensation and distribution of the confiscated land to the tillers free of charge. Their demand won unanimous support of the workers and democratic political parties and social organizations.

On March 5, 1946 the North Korean Provisional People's Committee issued the historic Law of the Land Reform.

The Law stipulated that all land owned by the Japanese nationals and organizations and by the national traitors and land owned by the Korean landlords in excess of over 5 jungbo and by those who continued to rent, and land owned by religious organizations in excess of 5 jungbo should be confiscated without compensation and distributed free of charge to the peasants who owned small or no land, so that the tenant system might be abolished forever.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party a nation-wide movement was unfolded to implement the land reform. For the successful implementation of the land reform the Party dispatched a great number of its members as well as over 10,000 excellent workers to the countryside and helped the peasant masses to organize 12,000-odd rural committees with poor and hired peasants as the core.

The land reform was accompanied by an acute class struggle. Under the leadership of the Communist Party the land reform was carried out victoriously in less than one month, smashing intrigues and machinations of the reactionaries.

As a result of the land reform over one million jungbo of land owned by the Japanese imperialists, national traitors and landlords were confiscated without compensation, of which over 981,000 jungbo was distributed free of charge to more than 724,000 landless or land-poor peasant households and the rest was nationalized. All the debts of the peasants to landlords were annulled and their draught animals, farm implements and houses were confiscated and distributed to the toiling peasants.

The enforcement of the land reform in North Korea was of great significance in the development of our history. An end was put to the feudal ownership of land that fettered Korea's agriculture for centuries. Thus the peasants became the masters of land.

The land reform brought agriculture closer to industry and consolidated the worker-peasant alliance. It liquidated the landowners as a class and dealt a blow to the rich peasants, whose position was insignificant in our country. By restricting the capitalist development of agriculture, our Party and Government created favourable prerequisites to put our backward agriculture on socialist bases.

On August 10, 1946 the Law on the Nationalization of Major Industries was enforced.

By this law, all factories, enterprises, mines, power stations, railways, transport, communications, banks, commerce and cultural organs owned by the Japanese imperialists and their agents, Korean national traitors, were confiscated and nationalized.

As a result of the nationalization of industry, 1,034 industrial establishments, 90 per cent of the total industry, were transferred to the ownership of the entire people. Consequently the economic mainstay of the Japanese imperialists, pro-Japanese elements and national traitors was completely done away with, and the socialist economic sector became predominant in the national economy.

But the nationalization of major industries was carried into effect as a link of anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution.

The people's power guaranteed the private ownership of middle and small enterprise and stimulated, under the state control, their initiative. They played their part in contributing to the rehabilitation and development of the national economy.

There existed socialist economic sector, small commodity economic sector and private capitalist economic sector.

The North Korean Provisional People's Committee proclaimed on June 24, 1946 the Labour Law, enforcing the system of an 8-hour working day and social insurance for the first time in Korea's history. This enabled the working class to display actively its creative initiative in the state building and to rapidly improve their material and cultural standards.

The Law on Equality of Sex was issued on July 30, 1946. It emancipated women from their state of slavery and enabled them to take part in political, economic and cultural life on a par with men.

At the same time, democratic reforms were put into practice in the fields of education, culture, public health and judicial system.

With the enforcement of such various democratic reforms, the task of anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution was thoroughly implemented first in Asia and a people's democratic system was established; a democratic base for the unification of the country was created; and material conditions were provided for building the foundation of socialism.

Following such social and economic reforms, tremendous changes were effected in the class relations, too. Our working class further enhanced its leading role in the state building. The conditions of the peasants and working intellectuals considerably improved and the worker-peasant alliance was further fortified politically and economically.

In order to build a unified democratic independent state it was imperative to ensure a firmer unity and closer co-operation between various democratic political parties and social organizations. To this end, the conference of the representatives of various political parties and social organizations was convened in July 1946, and for stepping up the activities of the United Democratic National Front permanent committees of various levels under the Front were organized. The national front grew into a mighty force of 5 million members.

Inspired by the results of the democratic reforms put into effect in North Korea, in South Korea the democratic forces against the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites swiftly grew.

Such being the case, the Communist Party was confronted with the task of developing the Party into a mass political party with a broader class foundation to comply with the objective requirements of the democratic development of society and the progress of the Korean revolution.

Moreover, it was urgent to unite the separate parties of the working people into a single party for strengthening further the unity of the working people, in view of the fact that the U.S. imperialists occupying South Korea became more avaricious in pursuing their policy of disrupting our nation.

Under the circumstances, in North Korea the Workers' Party of North Korea was founded by merging the Communist Party and the New Democratic Party in August, 1946, and in South Korea the Communist Party, the New Democratic Party and the People's Party were re-organized into the Workers' Party of South Korea in November 1946.

The founding of the Workers' Party of Korea was a

historic event in the political life of the Korean people. It was of great significance for the development of the Korean revolution. It consolidated further the unity and solidarity of the broad working masses on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance under the leadership of the working class and provided a firm guarantee for strengthening the revolutionary democratic base in North Korea and for attaining the unification and independence of the country.

The Korean people were confronted with the task of consolidating further the revolutionary democratic base and going gradually over to socialism under the guidance of the Party. For carrying out the task successfully it was necessary to further strengthen and develop the people's power in conformity with the change in the social, economic and class relations.

In North Korea for the first time democratic elections to the people's committees of province, city and county were held in November 1946 and elections to the people's committees of sub-county and ri (or dong) in February 1947.

The elections showed that the people's power was given the full support by the entire people.

In the elections to the people's committees of province, city and county, 99.6 per cent of the electorate participated. In the province 97 per cent, in the city 95.4 per cent and in the county 96.9 per cent voted for the candidates recommended by the United Democratic National Front. This represented a great victory to the Workers' Party of Korea, showing the firm political unity and solidarity of the popular masses.

On the basis of the elections to the people's committees of all levels, the organ of the supreme power was set up.

The Conference of the deputies to the North Korean People's Committee of Province, City and County, and the representatives of the democratic parties and social organizations was held on February 17, 1947. They formed the North Korean People's Assembly, the highest legislative body, participated in by the representatives of all sections and all the parties.

On February 21, 1947 the First Session of the North Korean People's Assembly organized the North Korean Peo-

ple's Committee headed by Kim Il Sung and adopted the Control Figures on the Development of the Rehabilitation of the National Economy for 1947.

"Thus, the North Korean People's Committee, as a further strengthened and developed organ of the people's democratic regime, waged more tenacious struggles for fulfilling our revolutionary tasks throughout Korea, and at the same time set out to implement the tasks for a gradual transition to socialism, further extending and consolidating the results of democratic reforms and developing in a planned way the national economy of North Korea" (from the Report of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the Third Congress made by Kim Il Sung). Another historic event in the Korean people's political life was the enactment of the Provisional Constitution.

The Third Session of the North Korean People's Assembly adopted a decision on enacting the draft Provisional Constitution of Korea and organized the Committee for Enactment of the Constitution with the representatives of the political parties and social organizations on November 18, 1947.

The Fourth Session of the North Korean People's Assembly held on February 6, 1948, decided to put the draft Provisional Constitution of Korea before the entire people for discussion, which lasted for two and a half months (from February 12 to April 25, 1948). During the discussions the Committee for the Enactment of Provisional Constitution received 58,000 resolutions supporting the draft and 2,238 suggestions complementing or amending the draft.

On April 28, 1948, the Extraordinary Session of the North Korean People's Assembly adopted unanimously the amendment to the draft constitution.

This is a legal embodiment of the gains in the democratic reforms and in the planned national economy under the people's power.

The fulfilment of the National Economy Plan for 1947 was a great success in the development of economy and culture and rapid improvement of the people's material and cultural living standards.

On February 8, 1948 the Party founded the People's Army, the true armed force, with a view to defending all the gains and freedom and independence of the country.

The founding of the Korean People's Army was one of the precious revolutionary gains achieved by the Korean people.

KOREAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY

1. U.S. Policy of National Division

The U.S. imperialists who have pursued the aggressive policy against Korea laid obstacles in the implementation of the decision of the Moscow Three Foreign Ministers Conference. The U.S. imperialists, running amuck to carry out the colonial enslavement policy on Korea, wrecked deliberately the Joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. Commission which was convened twice (from March to May 1946 and from May to October 1947). As a result, the possibility of the unification and independence of Korea and establishment of the provisional Korean democratic government was gone.

The U.S. imperialists were in a frenzy to realize through the U.N. their aggressive aim which they failed to achieve in the Joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. Commission.

They illegally put the Korean question on the agenda of the U.N. General Assembly and attempted to force the "elections" under the supervision of the "U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea." Thus they set up the "U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea" by invoking their voting machines in the U.N.

It was their aim to justify their aggressive policy toward Korea abusing the U.N. signboard.

The Korean people, therefore, condemned the illegal U.N. decision on Korea and unanimously came out against the "U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea."

The entire North and South Korean people strongly protested against it and waged a vigorous nation-wide struggle to bar the "U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea," the illegal U.S. agency the Korean people have never recognized, from entering Korea. The Korean people could not tolerate any action of splitting the country.

When the "U.N. Temporary Commission on Korea" was confronted with the resolute opposition on the part of the entire Korean people except a handful of reactionaries, the U.S. imperialists resorted to every means to hold separate "elections" in South Korea only and concoct a puppet regime. Consequently, the sharp crisis of the territorial division and national disruption was created.

The Korean people found it necessary to take new measures for coping with the grave situation.

The Workers' Party of Korea declared to boycott the South Korean separate "elections" in firm unity with the broad democratic patriotic forces of all Korea. It set forth the measures for setting up a genuine unified central government on the basis of general elections along democratic lines after withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea.

At its 26th meeting held on March 25, 1948 the Central Committee of the North Korean United Democratic National Front proposed to call the Joint Conference of Representatives of North and South Korea so that the South Korean political parties and social organizations might oppose the separate "elections" in South Korea and wage struggle for accelerating the peaceful unification of the country.

This proposal received a warm support from the broad political parties and social organizations and even some rightist political parties of South Korea.

Thus, the Joint Conference of Representatives of North

and South Korean Political Parties and Social Organizations was opened in Pyongyang on April 20-23, 1948.

The Joint Conference was an historic meeting. 545 representatives of 56 political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea involving more than 10 million members of the parties and social organizations gathered at one place to take measures to reject the national disruption policy of the U.S. imperialists and to achieve the peaceful unification of the country.

The conference adopted "a resolution concerning the political situation of Korea", demonstrating the unity and solidarity of the entire democratic forces under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The illegal U.N. resolution on the Korean question and the aggressive scheme of U.S. imperialists to hold separate "elections" in South Korea were exposed and condemned at the conference. Irrespective of their political views the North and South Korean political parties and social organizations resolved to boycott unanimously the separate "elections" in South Korea, make all foreign troops withdraw from Korea, and struggle for building a united sovereign independent state by the Korean people themselves.

In support of the conference the entire people of North and South Korea waged more vigorously the struggle for boycotting May 10 treacherous separate "elections."

2. Struggle of Korean People against the South Korean Separate "Elections" and the Founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Confronted with the general boycott of the people, the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs resorted to every means of oppression and fraud to force the separate "elections."

No oppression, no threat and no deceit could break the fighting will of the Korean people against the separate "elections."

All the political parties and social organizations whether Leftist, Rightist or middle-of-the-road, except a handful of terrorist group, boycotted unanimously the separate "elections."

The people attacked and burnt the polling stations in the various parts of South Korea. Vicious policemen and reactionaries were finished off.

Disregarding the will of the Korean people the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique resorted to deceit and intimidation to cook up the "elections" and concocted anti-popular Syngman Rhee puppet government, the aggressive tool of the U.S. imperialists.

The crisis of national division created in our country assumed a more vicious nature.

Under the circumstances, the Korean people led by the Party entered the road of founding the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a decisive measure to surmount the national crisis.

At the consultative conference of leaders of the political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea held on June 29, 1948, Comrade Kim Il Sung analyzed the political situation in connection with the separate "elections" in South Korea and proposed to set up through all-Korea elections the supreme legislative body, adopt the Constitution and establish an all-Korea government.

The decision of this historic conference was warmly supported by the entire Korean people, who were all out to the struggle for ensuring victory in the general elections throughout North and South Korea.

On August 25, 1948, elections were held to the historic Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. for founding a supreme legislative body of Korea.

The general elections were held by different means in the different situation in North and South Korea. The elections in North Korea were participated by 99.97 per cent of electorate, 98.49 per cent of them cast votes in favour of the candidates recommended by the United Democratic National Front.

Elections in South Korea could not be held openly

under the condition of the cruel terrorist oppression by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique.

Measures were taken to elect the people's representatives by August 20, then to return deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly at the Conference of Representatives of the South Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique were trying desperately to stop the nation-wide elections. They arrested, imprisoned, tortured and massacred a great number of the patriotic people. But 77.52 per cent of total South Korean voters took part in the elections in defiance of the cruel suppression.

Thus the elections to the highest legislative body scored a splendid victory. 572 deputies—120 workers, 194 peasants, 152 office employees, 33 men of culture, 73 enterprisers, traders, handicraftsmen—were elected representing all strata of the people. Among them were 160 women. 458 deputies represented the political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea, a gang of landlords, comprador capitalists, pro-Japanese and pro-American, national traitors excluded, and 114 were independents.

In September 1948 the First Session of the Supreme People's Assembly was held in Pyongyang and adopted the Constitution on September 9. The Constitution of the D.P.R.K. legally consolidated the great revolutionary gains of the Korean people in the northern part of the Republic—the gains attained by implementing democratic reforms in political, economic, cultural and all other fields. At the same time it reflected the fundamental interests of the South Korean people who were striving for the social system as established in North Korea. At the Session the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was proclaimed on September 9. This was followed by the formation of the Cabinet headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung. The founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which inherited the patriotic revolutionary tradition of the Korean people marked an epoch-making turn in the struggle of the Korean people for the unification and independence of the country and its democratic development and opened up a new page in the development of Korean history. The D.P.R.K. has become the

banner of freedom, independence and unification for the Korean people.

At the request of the First Session of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly for the simultaneous withdrawal of the Soviet and U.S. troops, the Soviet Government had withdrawn all its troops from North Korea by the end of 1948.

Our country established friendly diplomatic relations with the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union and made its debut on the international arena as a member of the mighty socialist camp.

Labour enthusiasm of the entire people under the leadership of the Workers' Party brought to a successful conclusion the National Economic Plan for 1948. The revolutionary democratic base of North Korea was further consolidated and the material force for the unification, prosperity and development of the fatherland was strengthened.

The Korean people started to carry out the two-year national economic plan (1949-50). It envisaged to attain the pre-liberation level in main spheres of the national economy, rapidly improving the material and cultural standards of the people and markedly developing education, culture and public health. At the same time, the elections to the local people's committees of all levels held in March, November, December 1949 enhanced the organizational, leading role of the people's government and consolidated the political unity of the people of all sections with the worker-peasant alliance as the basis.

The strengthening of the revolutionary democratic base and the rapid growth of the revolutionary forces exerted influence on the struggle of the South Korean people for the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal national liberation. This increased the unrest of the U.S. imperialists occupying South Korea and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique.

The U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique became more frantic in suppressing the South Korean people's resistance, in turning Korea into a colony and military base for invading Asian mainland. They were desperate to overthrow the people's democratic system established in North Korea. The U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee

clique pursued the policy of tearing the Korean people asunder and provoking a war. Such being the situation, the Korean people waged a staunch struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea and for the peaceful unification of the country.

In order to tide over the national crisis and to promote the peaceful unification of the fatherland, the United Democratic Fatherland Front was formed by merging the South and North Korean Democratic National Fronts into a single organization and by rallying all the democratic patriots who cherished the idea of unifying the country by peaceful means. The 704 representatives of 72 democratic patriotic parties (including some right-wing parties) and social organizations of North and South Korea participated in the inauguration congress held on June 25-28, 1949.

The Fatherland Front issued a declaration on the country's peaceful unification according to the proposal made by the Workers' Party of Korea. The declaration called for the entire people to carry out the concrete measures for the peaceful unification of the country.

The provocative maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique against North Korea became more vicious in 1950. The critical situation was created in Korea.

On June 7, 1950, the Enlarged Meeting of the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front issued an "Appeal on Promoting Measures for the Peaceful Unification of the Fatherland" after the deep consideration of the prevailing situation and proposed to set up a unified supreme legislative organ by carrying out general elections throughout North and South Korea. However, the U.S.-Rhee clique rejected the proposals, arrested and put in prison the two peace envoys who were dispatched by the U.D.F.F. to carry the Appeal to Seoul.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government did all they could to prevent a fratricidal war and to attain the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

On June 19, 1950, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, D.P.R.K., adopted a decision on practical measures for the country's peaceful unification on the basis

of the proposals made by the C.C. of the U.D.F.F. and with due regard to the earnest desire of the entire Korean people.

In the decision, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly made proposals for realizing the country's peaceful unification by means of amalgamating the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. and the "National Assembly" of South Korea into a single legislative body.

The U.S.-Rhee clique answered the proposals with their long prepared criminal war.

FATHERLAND LIBERATION WAR FOR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE

In the early morning of June 25, 1950, the Syngman Rhee puppet army, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists, launched a surprise attack upon the northern part of the Republic.

The American imperialists turned South Korea into their military base and prepared for an aggressive war with the object of occupying the North.

The notorious warmonger Dulles, then advisor to the U.S. State Department, inspecting the area along the 38th parallel on June 17, 1950, addressed men and officers of the Rhee's army: "No adversary, not even the strongest can oppose you. The time is not far off when you will be able to display your strength."

He instructed Syngman Rhee and Shin Sung Mo, the then puppet Defence Minister, to start attack on the North accompanied by a counter-propaganda on the grounds that the North has invaded the South first.

The armed invasion by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites put the country and the people in a critical situation.

The Government of the D.P.R.K. ordered the Border Guards and the People's Army to deliver a counter-attack on the invaders.

The Korean people were thus interrupted in their peaceful construction and drawn into the flames of the war against the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government carried out organizational and political work to bring to full play the inexhaustible might of the masses under the people's democratic system.

On June 26, Marshal Kim Il Sung, on behalf of the Party and Government, made a historic speech over radio calling upon the entire Korean people to rise up for the just war.

Along the orientation set forth in his speech the Party took measures for putting the state life on a war footing while mobilizing the people for winning victory in the war.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly organized the Military Committee with Comrade Kim Il Sung as Chairman.

The Party intensified the revolutionary discipline in the Party organizations, government organs and army, and sent the Party cadres and members to the army.

The rear was also economically and politically consolidated. The Party strengthened the people's power and the United Democratic Fatherland Front based on the worker-peasant alliance, so as to rally the people firmly round the Party and Government and ensure the strong political and ideological unity of the people.

Under the slogan of the Party, "All for the Victory on the Front!", the people in the rear rose up for crushing the enemy. They displayed patriotic devotion in rendering aid to the front and satisfying the requirements of the front and rear.

Factories produced various kinds of goods for the front.

Despite the enemy's bombing, the transport workers carried out their tasks with credit.

The peasants, too, strove to increase food production in disregard of the cruel bombing, difficulties and bottlenecks. They helped transport for the front, repairing railways, roads and bridges destroyed by the U.S. air bandits.

In the North alone, more than 849,000 youth and students volunteered to go to the front by August 15, 1950.

A series of measures taken by the Party and Government reinforced the front and the rear.

The people and army, the front and the rear, turned into a strong united militant force.

The U.S. imperialists threw their main forces into the Korean front. However, the Korean People's Army shattered the enemy's attack and liberated Seoul on June 28. In a matter of one and a half months, more than 90 per cent of the South Korean territory and over 92 per cent of its population were liberated from the enemy's yoke.

More than 4,000 political workers were sent to the liberated areas in the South to restore local people's committees, Party organs and social organizations which had been dissolved by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique.

Elections to the people's committees were held on democratic lines in the liberated 9 provinces, 108 counties, 1,186 sub-counties and 13,654 ri (or dong).

Land reform was carried out, too. As a result, 1,267,800 poor peasant households received without compensation over 573,300 jungbo of land.

The land reform was followed by the Labour Law and other democratic reforms were carried out in social and cultural fields.

Thanks to the democratic reforms, in the liberated areas a new people's democratic system was set up. The South Korean people got rid of the colonial feudal exploitation and oppression, and embarked upon a new life.

Faced with the danger of being ousted from South Korea, the U.S. imperialists threw new large reinforcements into the main front along the Rakdong River. They mobilized all their ground, naval and air forces stationed in the Pacific area, and even warships of the Mediterranean fleet and brought them in the Korean front.

Their plan was to make large-scale landing operations at Inchon so as to besiege and wipe out the main forces of the People's Army.

On September 13, the American pirates started operations of landing more than 50,000 armymen in Inchon. Hundreds of warships and over 1,000 airplanes participated in the landing operations.

The defence troops of the People's Army in Seoul and Incheon deterred the enemy's advance for 14 days. This frustrated the enemy's plan to encircle and annihilate the main units of the People's Army on the front line along the Rakdong River by occupying Seoul at one stroke.

From the strategical standpoint the Korean People's Army made temporary retreat.

Having seized Seoul, the enemy marched northward crossing the 38th parallel.

They tried to establish a colonial reactionary ruling system in the North, like in the South, and destroy the results achieved in the democratic construction. Brutal massacre, destruction, robbery were committed by the enemy to intimidate the Korean people.

For 40 days under the enemy's occupation more than 15,000 inhabitants were butchered in Pyongyang alone. The number of the victims reached over 120,000 in Hwanghai Province. In Shinchun County alone, South Hwanghai Province, the enemy slaughtered between October 17 and December 7 more than 35,000 people.

The enemy buried innocent people alive, or burnt them to death.

They gorged out the eye balls of the people, cut ears and noses or sawed the bodies. Some were run over by tanks.

The barbarous atrocities of the U.S. murderers surpassed those of Hitlerites.

However, they could not subjugate the Korean people.

Their inhuman acts inflamed the rage of the Korean people.

In spite of the temporary strategic retreat, the Party and Government prepared for a new resolute counter-attack.

Army units were re-organized and new army corps were organized. Many officers and commanders were trained. In the enemy's rear the second front was formed. Partisan units were organized.

It must be added that a big progress was made in raising combat efficiency of the army by carrying out the decision on intensifying the political work in the People's

Army, which was adopted on October 21, 1950 at the meeting of the Political Committee of the Party Central Committee.

Under the guidance of the Party the entire people and the men and officers of the army rose up as one to tide over the crisis.

The workers transported the important industrial facilities and food to places of safety and continued wartime production.

The peasants also made every effort to repair damaged bridges and roads and help the army's retreat.

The youth burning with patriotism volunteered to serve the army and join the partisans.

In the crucial period, the political and moral unity of the people grew into an invincible might. The People's Army increased its combat efficiency and preparations were made to start counterattack.

The Chinese people, seeing the grave menace to their own country, dispatched on October 25, 1950 their People's Volunteers to the Korean front under the banner of resisting American aggression and aiding Korea. The appearance of the Chinese People's Volunteers on the Korean front turned the scales in favour of the Korean people.

The People's Army went over to an offensive on the whole front in the co-ordinated operation with the fraternal Chinese Volunteers.

The Korean-Chinese army besieged and crushed the enemy forces on the River Chungchun and Lake Jangjin. And the whole territory of North Korea was soon liberated.

The Korean-Chinese units marched breaking through the enemy's defence line.

They encircled and annihilated the invaders en masse in the mobile operations. The enemy took flight far south of the 38th parallel.

At that time the Third Plenum of the Party Central Committee was held and a decision was adopted. A series of measures were taken for rapidly restoring Party and state organs and social organizations, rehabilitating the damaged national economy, stabilizing the deteriorated living of the people.

After the Third Plenum, the combat efficiency of the army grew and gained in strength. The link between the Party, Government and people became closer.

After the fifth campaign the war went over to a positional war. An impregnable defence line was built on 250 km wide front from west to east.

In 1951 the enemy launched the "summer offensive" and "autumn offensive". The enemy took the "Keumhwa offensive" in October 1952, and the "new offensive."

In spite of their successive defeat the enemy made frantic attempts of reckless attacks. In gross violation of the international norms, they used germ and chemical weapons.

However, they could not bring to their knees the Korean people who rose up in the just struggle.

The Korean people made every effort to end the war. This effort and the pressure of the world peace-loving people made the American imperialist aggressors who had suffered military defeat sign the armistice agreement on July 27, 1953.

In the period of the war the fraternal peoples of the socialist countries with the Soviet Union in the van extended the material and moral assistance to the Korean people. Millions of the peace-loving people stood on the side of the Korean people.

The Fatherland Liberation War which lasted for 3 years and one month ended in the historical victory of the Koreans.

The U.S. imperialists drove into the Korean front the forces of their satellite countries including Britain and France, only to incur a great loss in material and manpower. More than 1,093,800 men and officers of the enemy forces were killed, wounded and captured. Over 12,000 airplanes were shot down or damaged. Over 250 warships were sunken or damaged.

The enemy were compelled to squat again on the 38th parallel from where they started the war. The Korean people won victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War. It gave the lie to the myth about the "mightiness" of the aggressive U.S. imperialist army, exposing that the army

was only "paper tiger." And the brutality of the U.S. imperialism was laid bare before the world.

No strength conquer the might of the people who rise up in the righteous struggle against the invaders. The superiority of the people's democratic system which was established in the northern part of the country was shown in the strong rear, which ensured victory in the war.

The Korean people safeguarded freedom, independence as well as gains of the revolution, contributing greatly to the cause of peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

THE STRUGGLE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY AND SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION IN THE NORTH IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD

1. The Struggle of the Korean People for Socialist Construction in the North

Though the truce was reached, Korea still remained divided and threat of war was not yet removed. The division of the territory, disunity of the nation and maintenance of the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique brought untold misfortunes and sufferings to the South Korean people and obstructed the normal social and economic development.

Such being the case, the main revolutionary task confronting the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people was to unify the country along democratic lines and attain complete national independence.

For the realization of the peaceful unification of the country the Korean people had to convert the truce into a lasting peace and to further consolidate politically and economically the revolutionary, democratic base in the North.

For consolidating the democratic base in the North it was necessary to strengthen the Workers' Party of Korea organizationally and ideologically, enhance the militant role of the people's power and enlarge the United Democratic

Fatherland Front, thereby firmly rallying all the patriotic, democratic forces around the Party and Government.

For strengthening the democratic base economically it was necessary to speedily rehabilitate and develop the war-devastated national economy and to improve radically the deteriorated people's living.

The Korean people suffered severe damage from the three long years of war forced by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, Syngman Rhee clique. Over 8,700 buildings of factories and enterprises were destroyed, 370,000 jungbo of farm land was damaged and over 600,000 dwelling houses were wrecked.

Even according to incomplete data, the damage the war inflicted upon the national economy amounted to 420 billion won (in old currency).

In order to strengthen the democratic base politically and economically and to convert it into a decisive force for attaining the unification and independence of the country, it was necessary to carry out the task of socialist construction in the North.

Taking into consideration the concrete conditions, the Sixth Plenum (August, 1953) of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea laid down the general line for the post-war economic development—the line of priority development of heavy industry with simultaneous development of light industry and agriculture.

This was the most correct policy which was the creative application of Marxist-Leninist theory on socialist construction to the reality of Korea.

In carrying out the task of rehabilitating and developing the war-devastated national economy the priority development of heavy industry was of decisive significance. Without ensuring the priority growth of heavy industry it was impossible to reconstruct and enlarge rapidly the destroyed production facilities, to build the foundation of the self-supporting national economy and to create the material foundation necessary for the improvement of the people's living.

The priority development of heavy industry does not mean the over-all development of heavy industry. Taking

into consideration the concrete economic condition of our country and the international cooperation between the socialist countries, our Party took measures for ensuring the priority development of heavy industry in direction of strengthening the foundation of the self-supporting national economy and of solving the problems of food, clothing and housing for the people.

To stabilize and improve the people's living standards deteriorated by the war, light industry and rural economy had to be rapidly rehabilitated and developed.

At the same time the Plenum outlined the main direction for the socialist co-operativization of agriculture.

It was clear that without leading the rural economy depending upon small commodity economy along socialist road balanced development of industry and agriculture and improvement of the peasants' living could hardly be expected.

Under the difficult conditions in the post-war period only the Party's general line of the priority development of heavy industry with simultaneous development of light industry and agriculture could ensure successfully the socialist construction of the country.

In response to the call of the Party, "All for the Post-war Reconstruction and Development of the National Economy for the Strengthening of the Democratic Base," the entire Korean people rose up as one.

Difficulties and obstructions were thrown in the way. However, the Korean people had enough strength to overcome them. They had the correct policy and well-advised leadership of the Party and received sincere aid from the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and other brother countries.

For the successful implementation of the Party's general line it was very important to use every possibility and condition and to mobilize the patriotic zeal of the working people.

The Workers' Party of Korea paid keen attention to improving the method of work and developing the capability of the leading personnel of the Party, Government and economic organs and at the same time conducting socialist

education to enhance the role of the labouring masses. In this respect, the March Plenum (1954) and April Plenum (1955) of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea were of great significance.

In the course of implementing the decisions adopted by the plenary meetings political enthusiasm and creative labour struggle of the working people headed by the working class were heightened. Thus the Three-Year National Economic Plan was overfulfilled in two years and one month in the production level of industry and two years and eight months in the gross output value.

The successful fulfilment of the Three-Year Plan created a firm material-technical foundation for going over to the First Five-Year Plan which marked a new stage in the development of our national economy.

In April 1956 the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea was held. It was an event of great significance for the development of our Party and the revolution.

The Congress summed up the great achievements and experiences attained by the Party and put forth the Party's line for strengthening the revolutionary, democratic base in the North which constitutes a decisive guarantee for accelerating the peaceful unification of the country.

The Congress set forth concrete tasks of the First Five-Year Plan (1957-61) for socialist construction in the North.

The Congress also outlined concrete and practical measures for promoting the peaceful unification of the country and for strengthening the Party.

Upholding the militant programme outlined at the Third Congress the entire Korean people waged a tenacious creative labour struggle. Thus they entered the road of carrying out the First Five-Year Plan.

The main task of the First Five-Year Plan which marked a new turning point in the socialist construction of our country was to lay a firm foundation for socialist industrialization, thereby completely removing the colonial oneness and gradually accelerating the technical reconstruc-

tion in all branches of the national economy and to solve basically the problems of food, clothing and housing for the people.

This vast task had to be carried out mainly by inner reserves of our country. Therefore, the December (1956) Plenum called for the entire Party members and people to bring about a new upsurge in the socialist construction by waging nation-wide struggle for maximum production and minimum spending.

The Party inspired the Party members and the working people to put into practice the decision of the December Plenum and the leading personnel went among the masses and helped them to conduct the economic affairs efficiently. Special mention should be made of the fact that the Party and Government leaders headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung inspected factories and agricultural co-ops and discussed the plan with the working people and guided them to tap and utilize tremendous hidden reserves. Our working people who had risen up in response to the call of the Party displayed a high degree of creative enthusiasm.

After the December (1956) Plenum there was a great upsurge in socialist construction and the Chullima (winged horse) movement spread in all branches of the national economy.

For the continuous innovation and continuous onward march the Plenum of the C.C. of the Party held in September 1958 addressed a letter to the entire Party members. The letter was discussed by the entire Party members. Thus mass innovation which was unparalleled in the history of our country took place and new miraculous achievements were made.

Thanks to the creative endeavour of the working people, many inventions and ideas were advanced and productivity developed at an unprecedentedly high tempo. Socialist construction was making a leaping forward in all spheres of the national economy. As a result, the targets of the First Five-Year Plan (1957-61) were reached in terms of gross industrial output value at the end of June 1959, in two and a half years, instead of five years.

The fulfilment of the First Five-Year Plan put an end

to the colonial one-sidedness and the foundations for socialist industrialization were laid firmly. Now our country has become a socialist industrial-agricultural country with the self-supporting economic foundation.

One of the most great victories attained by the Korean people in the socialist revolution is the completion of the socialist transformation of the rural economy.

The land reform which confiscated land from landlords and distributed it to the toiling peasants without compensation played a positive role in developing agricultural productivity. But it was of narrow and restrictive nature.

The small individual peasant economy failed to meet the demand of the leaping socialist industry and obstructed the development of the whole national economy. In view of the fact that the peasants' living had been deteriorated and the material foundation of the rural economy ruined by the war and agriculture lagged far behind industry, a new way of agricultural co-operativization should be opened for the small individual peasant farming.

Adhering strictly to the Leninist principles of the agricultural co-operativization the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic led the peasants to the path of co-operativization. The agricultural co-operativization went on smoothly and was completed by August 1958 through the experimental stage of 1953-54 and the stage of mass development of agricultural co-operative movement which started from 1955.

The agricultural co-operativization also promoted the socialist remoulding of private traders and enterprisers in towns. With the co-operativization of the individual peasant economy the capitalist elements in towns lost their last foodhold. The co-operativization of agriculture necessitated the socialist transformation of private trade and industry.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic took measure for gradually reforming private traders along socialist lines through producer-marketing co-ops.

Thus an undivided sway of socialist relations of pro-

duction has been established in all branches of the national economy.

One of the cardinal tasks in the present socialist construction is to carry out the technical and cultural revolution.

The direction of the technical revolution laid down by the Party is the mechanization and automation of production.

The main line of our Party on the technical reconstruction of the national economy has been successfully put into effect. Now the demand is met at home for various kinds of machines and parts except some special kinds of machines, and the foundation for mass production of various heavy machines has been laid.

The movement for multiplying machine tools which had been unfolded on a mass scale on the initiative of Premier Kim Il Sung was a turning point for an epochal change in developing rapidly the machine-building industry and accelerating an over-all technical transformation.

Thanks to the movement, over 13,000 more machine-tools than envisaged in the original state plan were produced in 1959 alone.

The main line laid down by our Party on the technical revolution in our countryside is the establishment of an over-all irrigation system, mechanization and electrification. The irrigation system has in the main been completed.

Big success has also been achieved in the electrification in the countryside. Over 90 per cent of entire rural villages are provided with electricity. Mechanization is making headway and will be completed within 3-4 years.

Brilliant achievements have been attained in the cultural revolution. In 1958 universal compulsory middle school education system was enforced for the first time in Asia. Now preparations for compulsory nine-year schooling including the two-year technical education system is now under way. And it will be effected in the 1962-63 academic year.

In North Korea there was not a single university before liberation but today there are 37 institutions of higher learning. A quarter of the entire population in the North,

or 2.5 million, are studying gratis at 8,000 schools of all levels.

Illiteracy has been completely eliminated. There are working people's schools and working people's middle schools throughout the country for giving non-educated adults primary or middle school knowledge.

Science and arts are developing extensively and the communist education is being stepped up.

Great social and economic reforms brought about a drastic change in the class relations in our country. Change took place in the social composition of the population: in 1959 workers and office employees accounted for 50.6 per cent, (18.7 per cent in 1946), agricultural co-op members 45.7 per cent and handicrafts co-operative members 3.3 per cent.

The ranks of the working class have grown and its leading role has been greatly enhanced in all spheres of the state and social life.

Our heroic working class, the leading class of the country, was tempered and steeled amidst the flames of the severe war and has been making miraculous labour exploits in the socialist construction since the war.

The position of the peasants, the reliable ally of the working class, has fundamentally changed. With the completion of agricultural co-operativization, the sources of exploitation and poverty have been liquidated and millions of peasants have changed from yesterday's small commodity producers into honourable agricultural co-operative members, socialist working people.

The intellectuals have played and are playing a big role in the socialist construction of our country. From the first days of liberation the Party has made consistent efforts to expand the ranks of intellectuals by training a large number of new intellectuals from among the working people, while reforming perseveringly the old intellectuals and actively enlisting them in the building of a new life. Thus, our Party has increased the ranks of intellectuals, who are loyal to the Party and the revolution.

Today the worker-peasant alliance has a new economic foundation in our country.

The old economic foundation of the worker-peasant alliance, which had not yet been free from the contradictions between the large scale socialist industry and backward individual small peasant economy, has given way to socialist foundation. The worker-peasant alliance has been further consolidated on the fundamentally changed class foundation, and political and moral unity of the different strata of the people has become invincible on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance under the leadership of the working class.

The consolidation of political and moral unity and solidarity of the Korean people was clearly expressed in the victory of the elections to the central and local state power organs, and our people's government organs, the mighty weapon of our revolution, have been still further strengthened.

In the elections to the people's assemblies of ri (or eup and workers' settlement) held on November 20, 1956, 99.99 per cent of the electorate went to the polls and 99.73 per cent of voters were in favour of the candidates. And in the elections to the people's assemblies of province, city, county (or district) which were held on November 27 of the same year, 99.99 per cent of the electorate went to polls and 99.93 per cent were in favour of candidates to the people's assemblies of province, and 99.98 per cent in favour of the candidates to the people's assembly of city, county (or district).

More than 10,000 deputies were elected in the local elections; among them were 2,428 workers, 2,528 office employees, 695 intellectuals, 3,616 agricultural co-op members, 386 individual peasants, 212 members of producers' and fishing co-ops, 233 enterprisers and traders, 210 religious men and 47 others. Women deputies numbered 2,100.

In the elections to the Second Supreme People's Assembly held in August, 1957, 99.99 per cent of the electorate went to the polls and 99.92 per cent of voters were in favour of the candidates.

215 deputies were elected to the Supreme People's

Assembly; workers were 84, peasants 68, office employees and intellectuals 60, enterprisers and traders 3. And among them were 27 women deputies. Our people's assemblies of all levels are composed of representatives of different strata of the population based on the worker-peasant alliance under the leadership of the working class. This fact shows the truly popular nature of our people's power.

Through these elections state organs at all levels were reinforced with the patriots who displayed heroism in the glorious struggle for the peaceful unification of the fatherland and socialist construction. The people's governments of all levels enhanced the role of organizing economy and educating the people and strengthened their leadership over economic and cultural construction.

With a view to enhancing the role and functions of local government organs, the Workers' Party of Korea took a number of measures to extend the power of local government organs in keeping with the newly created situation, in which the socialist transformation of rural economy was completed and the agricultural co-operatives merged into one according to a *ri* (the lowest administrative unit) and local industry was making rapid development.

These measures stimulated the activeness and creativeness of local government organs in economic and cultural construction and enabled the broad popular masses to participate actively in the state and economic administration.

In August 1959, the Party and Government reorganized the industrial administration system in view of the fact that the industrial productive forces developed into a new high. This provided favourable conditions for the development of national and local industries.

The policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic, which regard the improvement of the material and cultural standards of the people as a supreme law governing their activities, has borne fruits in a short space of time in the post-war period.

The Party policy which has shown its vitality in real life is arousing wholehearted support and trust of the entire people to the Party and the Government.

Korean nationals living in Japan (the overwhelming majority of them are of South Korean origin) are returning to their genuine fatherland—the Democratic People's Republic of Korea despite the obstructive tactics of the U.S. imperialists and their puppets. This is an expression of their profound support of the justness of the policy pursued by the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic.

The peace-loving foreign policy of our Government is enjoying the support and encouragement of the people throughout the world and great successes achieved in the socialist construction since the truce won their admiration. The prestige of the D.P.R.K. has been greatly enhanced.

Mutual visits by the Party and government delegations of the D.P.R.K. and the countries of the socialist camp in the post-war period and the growing economic and cultural co-operation with the fraternal socialist countries made a great contribution to strengthening friendship and solidarity among the countries of the socialist camp.

The Korean people have been making efforts for developing co-operation with the peace-loving nations in Asia and Africa which are opposed to colonialism and imperialism.

In this way, the Korean people have strengthened economic and cultural co-operation with the peoples of Asia and Africa.

Under the banner of proletarian internationalism, the Korean people are firmly safeguarding the eastern outpost of peace as a member of the great socialist family headed by the Soviet Union and confidently marching forward to the higher eminence of socialism where we can view before us more closely broad vistas leading to our ultimate goal, communist society.

It was at this time that, on the initiative of Premier Kim Il Sung, the Workers' Party of Korea set the year of 1960 as the adjusting period for the further development of the national economy. This is a preparatory stage for re-organizing forces in carrying out the tremendous task of building socialism within the forthcoming 6-7 years.

Today, the Korean people are displaying a higher de-

gree of enthusiasm for the successful implementation of the tasks set for the adjusting period of 1960.

2. The Struggle for the Peaceful Unification in the Post-War Period

Following the truce, the Korean people embarked upon the road of socialist construction, while invigorating the unrelenting struggle for the peaceful unification of the country representing the most urgent desire of the whole nation. The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic have worked consistently and tirelessly to turn the truce into a lasting peace and convening the political conference which was to play an important role in solving the Korean question by peaceful means.

The Armistice Agreement provided for holding the political conference within three months after the truce. However, the U.S. aggressors who had no intention of solving the Korean question peacefully wrecked the convocation of the political conference by resorting to all sorts of their destructive schemes.

On the very day when they signed the Armistice Agreement, the American imperialists framed up the so-called 16-nation declaration, which aimed at fettering the 16-nations that had participated in the armed intervention in Korea to the obligation to send again troops in case the U.S. imperialists started another war in Korea.

On August 8, 1953, the American imperialists concluded with the Syngman Rhee clique the "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence Pact", which legalized the prolonged stationing in South Korea of the U.S. forces. At the same time, they further intensified their domination over the political, military and economic affairs of South Korea and instigated the Syngman Rheeites to trumpet about "March North" in an attempt to aggravate tension in Korea.

But the Korean people have never spared their efforts for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

On the initiative of the Soviet Government, in April 1954, the Geneva Conference was held for the peaceful

settlement of the Korean and Indo-Chinese questions. At the outset of the Conference our government delegation clarified its just stand that the Korean question should be solved by the Koreans themselves without any outside intervention. To this end, our delegation made a series of concrete proposals based on the democratic principles. It stated that all-Korea elections should be held in accordance with the free expression of the will of the Korean people in order to re-establish a unified government of Korea; all foreign troops be withdrawn from the territory of Korea in order to ensure the elections in a completely free atmosphere without any foreign intervention; the governments concerned about the preservation of peace in the Far East strive to solve the Korean question peacefully. This fully accorded with the prime interests of the Korean people and made contribution to consolidating the world peace.

On the contrary, the representatives of the U.S. government rejected all our reasonable proposals without any just ground. They demanded that elections be held first in the northern part of the country under the supervision of the United Nations, a belligerent in the Korean war; in the South elections be held in accordance with the "constitution" of the puppet government; only the Chinese People's Volunteers should withdraw from Korea. This absurd proposal was intended to extend their colonial rule to North Korea. At last the delegations of the U.S. and its satellite countries deliberately wrecked the Conference.

After the Conference, the U.S. imperialists let the Syngman Rhee clique announce that the armistice in Korea was "null and void" and that "March North" should be carried out. They expanded the puppet Syngman Rhee army to 31 divisions by 1956 from 16 at the time of the truce. Furthermore, the U.S. imperialists hindered the activities of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission set up in accordance with the Armistice Agreement, with a view to expanding armaments. They conducted frequently provocative acts along the military demarcation line.

Such being the case, the 8th Session (October 1954) of the First Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. again

advanced concrete proposals: to convene a North-South conference of the representatives of all walks of life, various political parties and social organizations, or a joint session of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. and the "National Assembly" of South Korea, with a view to discussing the peaceful unification of the country; to take concrete measures for promoting reciprocal contacts between North and South Korea in spheres of economy and culture.

The 9th Session of the First Supreme People's Assembly convened in March 1955 proposed again measures for the country's peaceful unification. The measures were most appropriate in view of the situation created in the country. The 9th Session demanded that the South Korean authorities should abolish the various treacherous U.S.-South Korean military pacts; all foreign troops withdraw from Korea; the numerical strength of the armed forces of North and South Korea be reduced to 100,000 or less respectively; concrete measures be taken for ensuring free travel and contacts between North and South Korea; economic and cultural rapprochement be effected.

In his speech delivered at the celebration meeting in Pyongyang on the occasion of the 10th anniversary (1955) of the Korea's liberation, Premier Kim Il Sung once again clarified the proposals for the country's peaceful unification: both North and South Korean authorities should declare to use armed force under no circumstances; in order to solve the Korean question a Far Eastern Conference should be convened with the participation of the broad representatives of the Asian countries.

However, all these proposals made by the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic for the country's peaceful unification, and measures for opening contacts between North and South Korea were turned down by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites.

The historic Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea convened in April 1956 reaffirmed our just stand on the peaceful unification of the country, adopted the declaration "For the Peaceful Unification of the Country" which was in full accord with the new situation and set forth

effective measures for the country's peaceful unification. The declaration once again made it clear that all foreign troops must withdraw from Korea and the Korean question should be settled in accordance with the will of the Korean people without any foreign interference, on democratic principles, through negotiation.

Pointing out that a united Korean government should be established through all-Korea elections on democratic principles, the declaration maintained that the democratic rights and freedom for the South Korean people must be ensured; freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association and religious belief of the popular masses guaranteed; freedom of activities of patriotic political parties, social organizations and individual persons of all walks of life materialized; equal suffrage, especially conditions for the broad working masses to take an active part in public and political life ensured.

The declaration went on to stress the need of removing the artificial barriers between North and South Korea, initiating economic, cultural, scientific, art, sports, and postal exchange between the people of both parts.

At the Congress it was also proposed to organize a permanent committee of representatives of the parliaments and governments, or of political parties and social organizations throughout the North and South in order to discuss and create practical prerequisites to Korea's peaceful unification. With a view to uniting all the patriotic forces throughout North and South Korea in the common struggle against the foes of peaceful unification, the Congress called upon the entire Korean people to hold a joint meeting of representatives of political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea or separate meetings with various political parties, social organizations and individual personages.

The declaration went on to stress the need of the convocation of an international conference with the participation of the representatives of North and South Korea and broad Asian states concerned about the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

Relying on the vigorous support of the popular masses, the Workers' Party of Korea worked hard to promote the realization of these proposals.

The Government of the Republic advanced proposals to the South Korean authorities to cut to the minimum the numerical strength of the North and South Korean troops with a view to easing tension between the North and South and further alleviating the heavy burden of military expenditures imposed upon the South Korean people.

It was at this time that the Government of the Republic took measures for unilaterally reducing the forces of the Korean People's Army by 80,000 by the end of August 1956. The Government of the D.P.R.K. solemnly declared that it would not resort to arms against South Korea, as it never had in the past, so long as the South Korean side would not attack the North first.

But the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites stubbornly refused all these just, reasonable proposals while working frenziedly to aggravate tension in Korea.

The U.S. imperialists announced their unilateral abrogation of the important provisions of the Armistice Agreement after checking the legal activities of the inspection teams of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in South Korea. Moreover, they transferred the "U.N. Command" from Tokyo to Seoul in July 1957, while working frenziedly to convert South Korea into a U.S. atomic base.

The Enlarged Plenum of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea convened in December 1957, on the basis of the concrete analysis of new internal and external situation, once again set forth a series of realistic measures for the acceleration of the peaceful unification of the country.

Stressing that the armistice should be turned into a lasting peace and U.S. troops get out of South Korea, the Plenum demanded that North and South Korean armies must be reduced to 100,000 or less respectively. Moreover, the Plenum put forth a series of concrete measures for materializing free travel, regular postal exchange and normal trade between the North and South, and removing

an artificial barrier in Korea. The Plenum demanded that the political parties, social organizations and individual personages in North and South Korea must be provided with the opportunity of having mutual contacts and holding negotiations, and that, first of all, in South Korea, political life must be democratized and the free activities of all political parties and social organizations be ensured. Furthermore, the Plenum expressed readiness to ensure any of the political parties, social organizations or individual personages of South Korea conditions for free activities in North Korea.

Following the December (1957) Enlarged Plenum, the Government of the D.P.R.K. made public a statement on February 5, 1958. In the statement the Government of the Republic proposed that within a definite period after the complete withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea, all-Korea free elections should be held (the elections might be conducted under the observation of a neutral nations organization) to realize the country's peaceful unification. Also it proposed that economic and cultural exchange and negotiations between the North and South be effected as early as possible and the armies of North and South Korea be reduced to the minimum.

On February 7, the Government of the Chinese People's Republic issued a statement in full support of our Government statement and took the initiative to withdraw the Chinese People's Volunteers from Korea. In line with the statement issued by the Government of the Chinese People's Republic, the Chinese People's Volunteers completed by October 26, 1958, its withdrawal from North Korea.

The withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers from Korea opened up a new phase for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question. Thus the U.S. imperialists lost their last pretext for keeping their army stationed in South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists, however, rejected presumptuously the withdrawal of their troops from South Korea and did not stop their war preparations.

The Korean people could by no means look on with folded arms at such situation.

After discussing the measures taken by the Government of the Republic for the country's peaceful unification, the 6th Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly (October 1959) adopted letters to the "House of Representatives of R.O.K." and the South Korean people and letters to the parliaments of all the states the world over, and proposed to promote the boardest contacts between the North and South.

However, the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen turned down without a just ground not only all these reasonable proposals for the Korea's peaceful unification but also measures for the promotion of economic and cultural exchange and business-like relations between the North and South.

In December 1954, the Minister of Communications proposed in his letter to the South Korean authorities to discuss measures for regular exchange of communications and postal matters between North and South Korea; the Minister of Internal Affairs and Minister of Fishing Industry issued a joint statement in May 1955 extending to the South Korean fishermen the right to fish in the territorial waters in the North; in his statement in November 1955, the Minister of Electric Industry expressed his readiness to give electricity to the South where a shortage of electricity is keenly felt; the Minister of Home and Foreign Trade proposed in October 1957 to establish relations for trade and exchange of commodities for mutual benefit between the people of North and South Korea.

However, all these proposals for the promotion of business-like relations between the North and South were rejected by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites. Furthermore, even the compatriotic warm hands of the North Korean people extended for relieving the South Korean people from a dire straits were turned down by them.

In August 1957 the D.P.R.K. Red Cross Society proposed to send to flood victims in South Korea large quantities of food, clothes and medicines; In May 1957 the Government of the Republic made a proposal to supply 100,000

suk of relief rice to the foodless peasants in South Korea, expressing a profound sympathy with the miserable life of the South Korean people; greeting the 10th anniversary of the founding of the D.P.R.K., the Government of the Republic proposed in August 1958 to give 150,000 suk of rice, 5 million metres of fabrics, 4 million pairs of footwear and 10,000 tons of fish gratis, for relieving the unemployed and vagrant orphans in the U.S.-occupied South Korea, and offered to bring up war orphans who were wandering about the street; it also proposed to grant monthly 1,000 won of stipends to each of the poor 3,000 students of the South Korean higher educational institutions; On January 22 and on May 22, 1959 condemning the outrageous "emigration" scheme of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites, our Government issued a statement proposing to send over to the northern part of the Republic all the unemployed, demobbed soldiers of the puppet army and the former inhabitants of the northern part of the Republic kidnapped by the American imperialists during the war.

In August 1959, in order to rescue the flood-refugees in South Korea the Government of the Republic decided to send rice, fabrics, footwear, cement, timber free of charge, and once again advanced it to the South Korean authorities.

All these sincere proposals were also turned down by them.

South Korea has been driven into the depths of misery owing to the stubborn refusal of the peaceful unification of the country by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites.

Today, the national economy of South Korea is faced with general bankruptcy. South Korea, once a granary, is reduced to an area of chronic famine.

In South Korea there are over 5 million unemployed and semi-unemployed and millions of foodless and displaced peasants. The number of suicides is increasing with every passing day.

In this way, the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique barred all the avenues to peace and peaceful unification of Korea.

Fifteen years of brutal U.S. despotism brought the pent-up patience of the South Korean people to an end. At last, their anger burst up.

The Masan citizens, furiously indignant at the fact that the Syngman Rhee clique cooked up the March 15 "Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections" by unprecedented fascist oppression, trickery and fraud, rose up in a resolute uprising on April 19, 1960.

Following the Masan uprising on April 19, 1960 the South Korean people went over to the mass popular uprisings in strong protest against the fiendish U.S.-Rhee fascist rule, sweeping the whole land including Seoul, Pusan, Taegu, Kwangju, etc.

It is a patriotic struggle in demand of a new government and a new system and for freedom, democracy and the right to living.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea addressed on April 21, 1960, an appeal to the South Korean people in connection with the grave situation prevailing in South Korea.

Expressing full support of the just struggle of the South Korean people, the appeal proposed that a North-South joint conference of the representatives of the political parties and social organizations be convened at the earliest possible date to discuss the measures for coping with the catastrophic situation developing in South Korea.

The appeal strongly demanded an end to the stationing of the U.S. imperialist aggressive troops in South Korea which constitutes the cause of all the misfortunes and sufferings of the Korean people.

In view of the present situation prevailing in South Korea the joint conference of the leaders of the political parties and social organizations held on April 27 in Pyongyang proposed in its statement to convene as early as possible a North-South joint conference of the representatives of the political parties and social organizations to discuss the termination of the national division and the matters of paramount significance for the nation. Moreover, the joint conference made a proposal to organize a North-South economic commission for the promotion of economic and

cultural rapprochement between the North and South.

The appeal made by the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea and the statement adopted by the joint conference of the leaders of the political parties and social organizations gave great impetus to the struggle of the South Korean people. Today the flames of the uprising of the South Korean people is spreading more widely and fiercely.

In spite of the fiendish U.S.-Rhee fascist oppression in South Korea, the heroic South Korean people forced Syngman Rhee, the No. 1 U.S. puppet, to resign from presidency and are staunchly continuing their vigorous struggle against the "caretaker government" headed by Huh Chung, another U.S. puppet, and for immediate dissolution of the puppet "National Assembly" and for the abolition of the colonial ruling apparatus of U.S. imperialism in South Korea demanding strongly that capital punishment be meted out to the national traitor Syngman Rhee.

Encouraged by the struggle of the popular masses, the "reformist" forces are in full preparations for forming a party. The movement for the realization of the peaceful unification of the country is becoming more brisk.

The struggle of the North Korean people is at high tide, supporting the popular uprising of the South Korean people and facilitating the country's peaceful unification.

Whipping up their unprecedented upsurge in the socialist construction, the North Korean people are resolutely demanding that U.S. troops should withdraw at once from South Korea.

The appeal of the Korean National Peace Congress held on May 23, 1960 in accordance with the demand of the Korean people once again called upon the peace-loving people throughout the world to condemn the brutal atrocities committed by the U.S. imperialists in South Korea, in the name of the conscience of mankind and peace. It is enjoying the full support and approval of the conscience of the world.

The present internal and external situation is turning in favour of the struggle of the Korean people for the peaceful unification of the country. No force can stifle their earnest national desire.

The Korean people will compel without fail the U.S. imperialists to get out of South Korea, abolish U.S. colonial rule in South Korea, and attain the peaceful unification of the country by accelerating the socialist construction in the northern part of the Republic and uniting all the patriotic forces under the correct leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The day of victory is approaching.

Printed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Korea Information Series (1945-1960)

No. 1 Political Survey of the D.P.R.K.

No. 2 National Economic Development in the D.P.R.K.

No. 3 Education and Culture in the D.P.R.K.

No. 4 Facts about South Korea